



Stephenson

Vegan Cosmetics

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What Are Vegan Cosmetics?



Vegan cosmetics are made without materials of animal origin or their traces.

Conventional materials of animal origin, are replaced by materials derived from plants or minerals. Examples of materials with animal origin are:

Lanolin

Comes from the wool of sheep and is sometimes known as 'wool-wax' or 'wool-grease'. It makes up 5-25% of the weight of freshly shorn wool.

Beeswax

Produced alongside honey, beeswax is made by bees to make the comb in the hive. For every ten pounds of honey produced one pound of wax is made.

Collagen

Collagen is a protein most commonly derived from the bones, skin and connective tissue of mammals. It is purported to boost elasticity and reduce wrinkles.

Milk

Milk is taken from mammals such as cows, goats and even donkeys. Milk is believed to have moisturising qualities for the skin.

Honey

Honey is harvested from the combs of a bee hive. Honey can last unspoiled for thousands of years and has been found edible in pharaoh's tombs!

Carmine

Produced from the crushed bodies of insects, especially cochineal insects, to produce a deep red pigment for colour cosmetics.

What is Cruelty Free?

Cruelty free products are products created without any form of animal testing throughout the creation of the product.

Animal testing has been banned in Europe since 2009, but is still legal in many other countries in the world. In China cosmetics products must be tested on animals before they can be sold, and the practise is still legal in USA and Canada.

Animal testing today is unnecessary, and can be replaced with alternatives such as in-vitro testing, computer models or cultured cell tissues.

Buying from brands that are certified cruelty free, or have been made in Europe will ensure your cosmetic and base products have not harmed animals on their way to you.



The best way to ensure you're buying cruelty-free is to look for the PETA and Leaping bunny certifications and logos.

Brands that are certified with these organizations undergo an evaluation process to ensure that no animal testing is used in any phase of product development by the company, its manufacturers, or its ingredient suppliers.





Soap Tutorial

Brewing the teabag in your hot soap will give it a gentle caramel colour, and adding a few drops of bergamot will enhance the natural fragrance.

Step 1

Cut 1kg of white soap base into small chunks. Using a microwavable container, melt the soap string intermittently to avoid boiling the soap base.

Step 2

Take three earl grey teabags and place in the hot soap. Stir, swish and squash the teabags to 'brew' the tea, until you have reached your desired colour, constantly stirring the soap to avoid a skin forming.

Step 3

Take a ball or cake pop mould. Spray with rubbing alcohol, then fill the mould with the tea coloured soap. Repeat until you have enough soap balls to mostly fill a mould.

Step 4

Spray the base of the mould with rubbing alcohol. Fill with the tea coloured soap balls and spray again. Melt another 1KG of white soap base, and when at around 55-60 ° C, fill the rest of the loaf and spray with rubbing alcohol. Top with sprinkled cornflowers.



Earl Grey Soap Slices



Make use of the natural colourant and fragrance of aromatic earl grey tea in this quintessentially British soap recipe.

Natural colourants can be used to create a beautiful rainbow of colours in your soaps, without the use of synthetic pigments.

Charcoal

Activated charcoal is carbon that has been processed to be a very fine powder. It creates a deep black colour, and is best mixed with a small amount of alcohol before adding.

Kaolin Clay

Kaolin clay comes in several muted colours such as pink, yellow, and white, and can be easily added to soap when mixed with a little alcohol.

Tumeric

Tumeric powder is the dried tumeric root, and is intensely yellow. Use mixed into glycerin for varying intensities of bright mustard yellow to brown.

Illite Clay

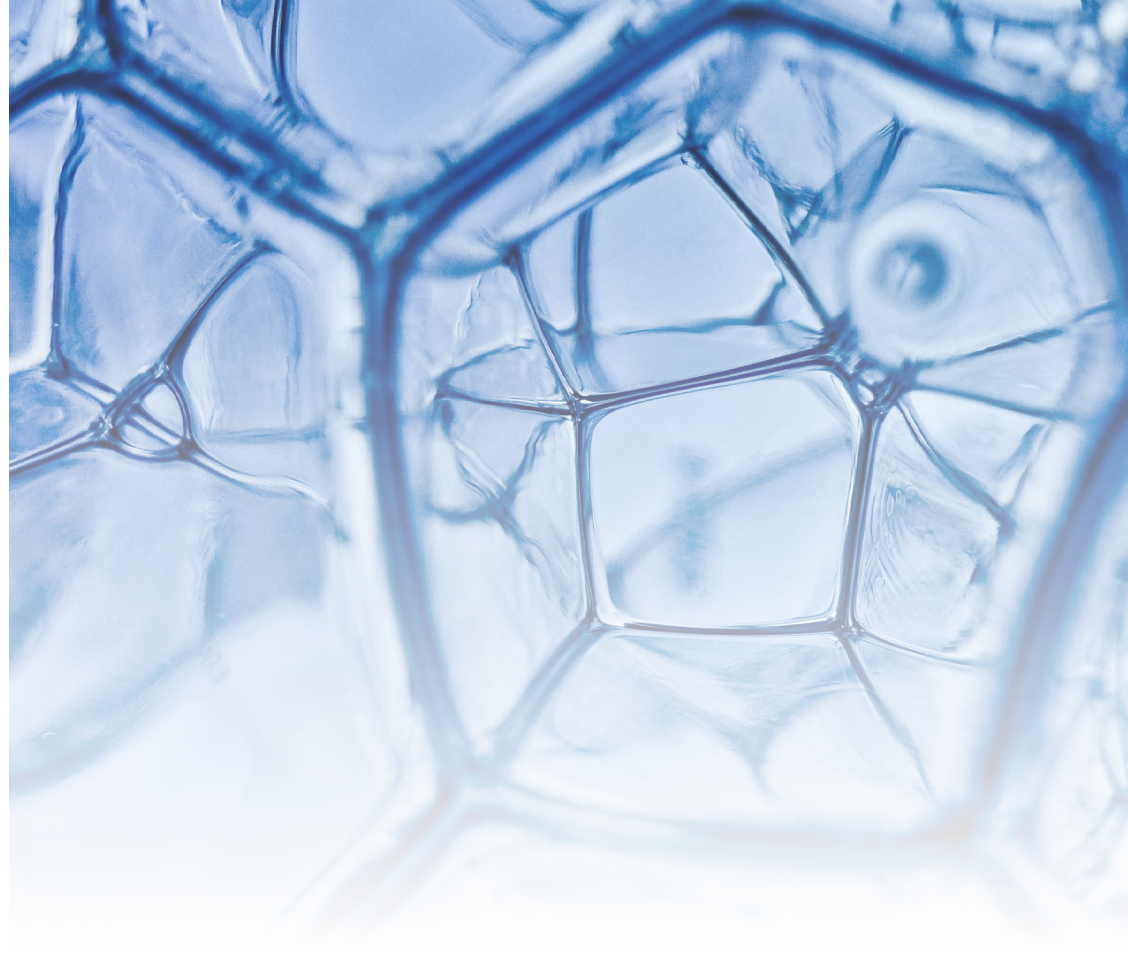
Another clay, Illite is a deep sea clay and can vary in colour from yellow to silvery-white, to greengrey. Mix with alcohol before adding.

Spirulina

Spirulina is a blue green algae powder and is packed full of vitamins. Mix with a little glycerin for best results; it does tend to come out a little speckly however.

Red Clay

Known as montmorillonite clay, and originating from France, this clay creates a lovely deep terracotta colour when added with alcohol.



Naturally Colourful Soaps

Getting the Most From Essential Oils

Nature's fragrance oils, essential oils, are indispensable when creating natural soaps for pleasant scent attributes and sometimes even enhanced health benefits.

Building Scent Blends

When building scent blends, it's important to have a mix of top, middle and base notes - by doing this, you can create beautiful scent blends for your soaps!

Top notes: should be bright and fresh, and come through the blend first. Such as: Bergamot, lemon, lime, mandarin, peppermint, spearmint

Mid notes: should form the main body of the fragrance. Such as: Clary sage, cedarwood, geranium, lavender, lemon balm, rosemary

Base notes: should be heavy, indulgent, and will last longer, acting as a fixative to the other fragrances. Such as: Frankincense, jasmine, patchouli, neroli, rose, sandalwood, vanilla, ylang ylang

Calculating Volume

When using Crystal Melt and Pour bases, we recommend using up to 2% of fragrances, essential oils and colourant of your overall formulation. An example of this using 200g of base would be $200\text{g} \times 0.02 = 4\text{g}$.





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Contact Us

We hope you find this guide to Vegan Cosmetics useful. If you would like information about any of our products please contact a member of our team:

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